

**CLASS 383, FLEXIBLE BAGS****SECTION I - CLASS DEFINITION**

This is the residual class for receptacles comprised of a peripheral wall made of flaccid or flexible material, with at least one closed end, and having an access opening, which may be an open end of the receptacle or which may be provided in the peripheral wall or closed end of the receptacle. Receptacles of this class type must function, by disclosure, to hold contents which in turn are to be eventually removed from the receptacle.

- (1) Note. The peripheral wall is the surrounding external boundary of the bag which, together with a closed end, forms a structure intended to confine or hold contents.
- (2) Note. An access opening must be intended to permit insertion of removal of bag content, and may be closed or closable.
- (3) Note. A blank intended to be made into a bag of this class type is classified with the bag. A blank is defined as a piece of stock material cut into final shape prior to being folded and secured in usable bag form.
- (4) Note. The flaccid or flexible bag material may be strengthened or reinforced to prevent tearing, or to aid in maintaining the bag in a given configuration.
- (5) Note. Patents issued before 1900 have been placed hereunder by total disclosure.

**SCOPE OF THE CLASS**

This class admits all bags not provided for elsewhere which satisfy the general statement in the Class Definition above.

**SECTION II - LINES WITH OTHER CLASSES AND WITHIN THIS CLASS****RELATION TO RECEPTACLE CLASSES**

See References to Other Classes, below, for related receptacle classes.

**RELATION TO SUPPORT CLASSES:**

In general, as between the receptacle classes and the support classes, the receptacle classes provide for the combination of a receptacle plus support; except, the

support classes will accept a claim to a support combined with a receptacle, wherein the claim (1) nominally recites the receptacles, or (2) recites only so much of the receptacle structure as is needed to cooperate with the support, or (3) recites only those receptacle features which have been modified specifically to cooperate with the support. See related support classes in the References to Other Classes, below.

**RELATION TO HEAT TRANSFER CLASSES:**

(A) Related Classes. See References to Other Classes, for related heat transfer classes

(B) Bag Feature Summary "Common" hot water or ice bag, whose contents are intended to be removed before the bag is reused. Class 383, Flexible Bags. See References to Other Classes, for related heat transfer classes with bag feature.

**SECTION III - REFERENCES TO OTHER CLASSES****SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:**

- 5, Beds, for a water bed bag or a pillow.
- 16, Miscellaneous Hardware, subclasses 110+ for handles, per se.
- 24, Buckles, Buttons, Clasps, etc., for fasteners, per se, particularly subclass 30.5 for a bag fastener, per se, and subclasses 572+ for a rib and groove fastener.
- 29, Metal Working, for methods of assembly in general.
- 40, Card, Picture, or Sign Exhibiting, subclasses 299.01+ for a check, label or tag, per se.
- 52, Static Structures (e.g., Buildings), subclasses 2.11+ for an inflatable building.
- 55, Gas Separation, subclass 361 for a bag-like filter.
- 56, Harvesters, subclasses 361+ for a bag-like device especially adapted for use in gathering fruit or nuts.
- 62, Refrigeration, subclass 4 for baglike refrigeration apparatus which produces a refrigeration effect by (1) a chemical reaction or (2) dissolving a solid in a liquid; subclass 259.3 for a baglike refrigeration apparatus having means for attaching it to a living body for the purpose of cooling it, and not limited to therapeutic use; subclasses 529 and 530 for a baglike refrigeration apparatus in which the enclosed coolant or refrigerant is disclosed as being for reuse

- within the apparatus (e.g., sealed and refreezable). (related heat transfer class)
- 62, Refrigeration, subclass 259.3, is the locus of patents directed to a nontherapeutic ice bag having means to attach it to the body. (related heat transfer class)
- 62, Refrigeration, subclass 529 and 530, for cold appliance which is reusable without removing the coolant. (related heat transfer class with bag feature)
- 62, Refrigeration, subclass 259.3. for cold appliance which is supported on the body but not limited by claimed structure to therapeutic use. (related heat transfer class with bag feature)
- 62, Refrigeration, subclass 4, for cold appliance utilizing an endothermic process (e.g., chemical reaction, solid dissolved by or in a liquid, crystallization, etc.) (related heat transfer class with bag feature)
- 70, Locks, subclasses 64+ for a bag combined with a lock of that class type (e.g., key, combination, etc.), wherein the modification of the bag is only of a character to accommodate the lock.
- 73, Measuring and Testing, subclass 863.91 for a sample holder.
- 99, Foods and Beverages: Apparatus, subclass 646 for a silo breather bag.
- 106, Compositions: Coating or Plastic, for flexible material of that class type nominally claimed as a bag. This Class, 383, provides for specific material combined with significant bag structure.
- 116, Signals and Indicators, subclasses 200+ for indicators, per se.
- 119, Animal Husbandry, subclasses 65+ for a feed bag particularly configured to be employed in feeding an animal.
- 126, Stoves and Furnaces, subclasses 204+ and subclasses 263.01+ for chemical heaters, and see related heat transfer classes
- 128, Surgery, appropriate subclasses, for a hot water or ice bag combined with claimed structure limited to therapeutic use. Such structure may for example: (1) Apply substances to the body; (2) Absorb substances from the body; (3) Permit insertion into a body cavity, and see related heat transfer classes.
- 126, Stoves and Furnaces, subclasses 204+ for a baglike heating apparatus, which has its own source of heat, and is used for warming the body, hand, or foot; subclasses 263.01+ for a baglike heating apparatus wherein the source of heat includes chemicals or chemical compositions which generate heat without flame when they are (1) brought into contact with one another or (2) mixed with water. (related heat transfer class)
- 126, Stoves and Furnaces, Hot appliance utilizing an exothermic process (e.g., combustion or other chemical reaction, solid dissolved by or in a liquid, crystallization, etc.), in particular subclasses 204+ for body warmers and subclass 263 for flameless chemical heaters. (related heat transfer class with bag feature)
- 128, Surgery, appropriate subclasses (including the subdivision represented as Class 604) for a hot water or ice bag limited by claimed structure to therapeutic use. The structure may, for example, be used to: (1) Apply substances to the body. (2) Absorb substances from the body. (3) Permit insertion into a body cavity. (related heat transfer class)
- 141, Fluent Material Handling, With Receiver or Receiver Coacting Means, subclass 390 and 391 for a bag having a separate filling aid which is disclosed as being removable from the bag when not in use.
- 150, Purses, Wallets, and Protective Covers, subclasses 100+ for a purse (i.e., a container which is used to carry personal items, such as money, keys, or identification, on one's person) and subclasses 154+ for a flaccid protective cover which is configured for and supported by the article it protects. Although purses and wallets provided for in Class 150 are also used to transport personal items while traveling, they customarily remain with or near the person. (related receptacle class)
- 150, Purses, Wallets, and Protective Covers, for a purse, wallet, and coin purse or protective article cover, and see related receptacle classes.
- 156, Adhesive Bonding and Miscellaneous Chemical Manufacture, for adhesive bonding in general and particularly, subclasses 69+ for securing end closure to containers.
- 165, Heat Exchange, for heat exchange appliance (hot or cold) having both an inlet and outlet, or a means to circulate a heat exchange medium, or an appliance utilizing both heating and cooling. (related heat transfer class with bag feature)
- 165, Heat Exchange, subclass 46 for a nonrigid baglike heat exchange device having an inlet and an outlet for circulating heat exchange medium, and see related heat transfer classes.
- 165, Heat Exchange, appropriate subclasses, in particular subclass 46 for a baglike heat transfer apparatus having either (1) both an inlet and an

- outlet disclosed for a circulating heat exchange medium or (2) means for circulating a heat exchange medium. (related heat transfer class)
- 190, Trunks and Hand-Carried Luggage, subclasses 100+ for a hand carried suitcase, briefcase, or other container which is used for transporting personal items while traveling. The suitcases and briefcases provided for in Class 190 normally remain at one's destination (e.g., hotel or office) after the traveling has been completed. (related receptacle class)
- 190, Trunks and Hand-Carried Luggage, for traveling containers of that type, and see related receptacle classes.
- 206, Special Receptacle or Package, for a bag having a specialized use provided for in that class or a bag having content therein; and see related receptacle classes.
- 206, Special Receptacle or Package, for a bag having a specialized use or feature provided for in that class, or a bag having content therein, and in particular, subclass 69 for a container for a rubber bag (e.g., hot water bottle, fountain syringe, etc.); subclasses 219+ for a bag which has been modified to permit mixing of two or more separated materials therein; subclass 245 for a laminate wall bag having tobacco therein; subclass 260 for a pouch having tobacco therein; subclasses 286+ for a bag having an interior member for supporting an article of clothing and a second member for attachment to an external support; subclasses 315.1+ for golf bags or arrow quivers; subclasses 363+ for a bag for a tool employed for medical or dental purposes; subclass 390 for plural bags connected together and wound into a roll; subclasses 438+ for a bag for an object or substance adapted for use in the treatment of wounds or diseased portions of the body; subclasses 457+ for a bag having ornamentation or a bag which simulates the appearance of a disparate object; subclass 459.1 for a bag having an indicator; subclass 459.5 for a bag having indicia; subclass 466 for a bag attached to a panel and used as an enclosing cover for a content item; subclasses 484+ for a bag having content therein and formed by two sheets sealed together completely around the content; subclass 497 for a bag which is shrunk around its content; subclasses 521+ for a bag which includes means for protecting its content against shock; subclass 524.8 for a bag that has been evacuated; subclasses 525+ for a miscellaneous bag having content therein; subclass 554 for a container for two or more bags; subclass 568 for a bag adapted to contain two or more separate, particular materials disclosed for commingling externally of the bag; subclass 620 for a bag for an electrical component which is made of static electricity shielding material; subclass 802 for a cross-reference art collection of shirred casings. (related receptacle class)
- 206, Special Receptacle and Package, subclasses 219+ for other types of compartmented containers disclosed as permitting commingling of two or more initially separated materials. (related heat transfer class)
- 206, Special Receptacle and Package, subclasses 219+ for other types of compartmented containers disclosed as permitting commingling of two or more initially separated materials. (related heat transfer class)
- 210, Liquid Purification or Separation, subclasses 348+ for a filter bag of that class type.
- 211, Supports: Racks, subclasses 126+ for a bag embodied as regular parts of a rack, and see related support classes.
- 211, Supports: Racks, for a built-up open framework for supporting a plurality of bags. (related support class)
- 215, Bottles and Jars, subclass 400 for plastic bottles, and subclass 11.1 for a bag used as a nursing bottle liner, and see related receptacle classes.
- 215, Bottles and Jars, subclass 400 for a plastic bottle and subclasses 11.1+ for a bag used as a nursing bottle liner. (related receptacle class)
- 220, Receptacles, subclasses 495.06+ for a bag which is a separable liner combined with a rigid receptacle, and subclass 62.21 for a receptacle having multi-layer walls including a permanent bag lining and see related receptacle classes.
- 220, Receptacles, subclasses 9.1+ and 9.4+ for a bag united with a three-dimensional self-sustaining framework, subclasses 495.06+ for a bag which is a separable liner combined with a rigid receptacle, and subclass 62.21 for a receptacle having multi-layer walls including a permanent bag lining. (related receptacle class)
- 222, Dispensing, subclasses 92+ for a collapsible wall type, subclasses 206+ for a dispensing supply container having a resilient wall, subclasses 460+ for a dispensing container having a funnel-type outlet, subclasses 544+ for a dispensing supply container having a flow controller for the discharge outlet, and subclasses

- 566+ for a dispensing supply container having a nozzle, spout, or other pouring device.
- 224, Package and Article Carriers, for a bag having a strap or other means which is intended for supporting the bag on the bearer's body while allowing the bearer's hands to remain free. Any bag of this type is proper for Class 224 even if it also includes an element which optionally may be gripped by the bearer's hand. This Class (383) includes bags having handles which are intended to be grasped by the hand. The test to be used is: As long as the bearer's hand must remain occupied in order to carry the bag it is proper for this Class 383 even if it is also intended to be simultaneously slung over the bearer's shoulder.
- 229, Envelopes, Wrappers, and Paperboard Boxes, subclasses 400+ for paper cups and subclasses 68.1+ for envelopes. (related receptacle class)
- 229, Envelopes, Wrappers, and Paperboard Boxes, subclasses 400+ for paper cups and see related receptacle classes.
- 232, Deposit and Collection Receptacles, subclasses 30+ for a bag which cooperates with a mail collection box, and subclasses 43.1+ for a bag intended to be filled with content items one at a time through one opening and intended to be emptied of its contents all at once through a different opening.
- 244, Aeronautics, subclass 31 for aeronautical balloons.
- 248, Supports, for a device which carries the weight of a bag or otherwise holds it or steadies it against the pull of gravity, and in particular, subclasses 95+ for bag holders. (related support class)
- 248, Supports, subclasses 95+ for a bag support, per se, or a bag support combined with a nominally claimed bag, and see related support classes.
- 251, Valves and Valve Actuation, for a valve, per se.
- 252, Compositions, for compositions of that class type nominally claimed as a bag.
- 264, Plastic and Nonmetallic Article Shaping or Treating: Processes, appropriate subclasses, for a process of making a bag by molding, casting, or shaping.
- 280, Land Vehicles, appropriate subclasses, for a bag combined with a wheel.
- 294, Handling: Hand and Hoist-Line Implements, subclasses 137+ for hand carried article carriers which are not bags, and subclasses 152+ for a sling-type article carrier.
- 425, Plastic Article or Earthenware Shaping or Treating: Apparatus, appropriate subclasses for an apparatus of that class type which is used to make a bag.
- 426, Food or Edible Material: Processes, Compositions, and Products, subclasses 106+ for a bag having food content therein, and subclass 138 for a bag or casing, per se, disclosed as being edible.
- 428, Stock Material or Miscellaneous Articles, appropriate subclasses, and in particular, subclasses 34.1+ for stock material nominally claimed as a bag and subclasses 34.1+ for an edible food casing having a closed end.
- 441, Buoys, Rafts, and Aquatic Devices, subclasses 88 through 125 for an inflatable bag used as a personal flotation device.
- 446, Amusement Devices: Toys, subclasses 220+ for an inflatable toy.
- 454, Ventilation, for ventilation features, per se.
- 473, Games Using Tangible Projectile, subclasses 569+ for an inflatable projectile (e.g., a basketball, football, soccerball, etc.) used in a game or sport.
- 493, Manufacturing Container or Tube From Paper; Other Manufacturing From a Sheet or Web, appropriate subclasses, for a method or apparatus of that class type for making a bag, and in particular, subclasses 186+ for pliable container making and subclasses 309+ for container or tube erecting.
- 604, Surgery, for other medical or surgical bags, especially subclass 262 for a medical bag which includes an injection element which is for insertion into the body, subclass 408 for a bag which is intended solely for storing blood or body treating fluids, and subclasses 317+ for a bag which is intended solely for receiving body fluids or waste products from the body. (related heat transfer class).
- 607, Surgery: Light, Thermal, and Electrical Application, subclass 96 is a collecting point for all hot water bags which have means for attachment to the body and 108 is a collecting point for those which are specifically configured for a body part. (related heat transfer class)
- 607, Surgery: Light, Thermal, and Electrical Application, subclass 96 for cold appliance (e.g., ice-bag) limited by claimed structure to therapeutic use. (related heat transfer class with bag feature)
- 607, Surgery: Light, Thermal, and Electrical Application, subclass 96, for hot appliance (e.g., hot water bag) limited by claimed structure to ther-

- apeutic use. (related heat transfer class with bag feature)
- 607, Surgery: Light, Thermal, and Electrical Application subclasses 108+, for hot appliance supported on the body or configured to support part of the body, even if not for a therapeutic use. (related heat transfer class with bag feature)

### SUBCLASSES

#### 1 BIODEGRADABLE FEATURE:

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein at least a portion of the bag is made of a material disclosed as being readily decomposable or disintegratable when exposed to the elements.

##### SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

220, Receptacles, Digest 30, for a biodegradable container not provided for elsewhere.

#### 2 SELECTIVELY ADJUSTABLE VOLUME:

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag includes means which permit the size of the bag to be optionally changed from one distinct content holding configuration to another, and back.

- (1) Note. To be proper for this subclass the bag must be capable of being converted back and forth from one volume configuration to another (i.e., smaller to larger), and include means for positively maintaining the bag in its smaller configuration.
- (2) Note. Bags provided with means for allowing a one-time increase in volume to accommodate increased contents are classified on other features.
- (3) Note. Bags which are designed to go from a collapsed, nonuse configuration to a one-size content holding configuration are classified on other features.

##### SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

190, Trunks and Hand-Carried Luggage, subclasses 103+ for an article of hand carried luggage having means for changing the volume.

#### 3 INFLATABLE:

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag or a portion thereof is disclosed as being fillable with, and retaining, gas at or above atmospheric pressure.

- (1) Note. The gas can be either the contents of the bag or gas which is used to inflate a portion of the bag, such as a wall area.

##### SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

52, Static Structures (e.g., Buildings), subclasses 2.11+ for a structure, or a component thereof, of that class which is shaped, supported or strengthened by an enclosed fluid, and see (1) Note. of subclass 2.11 for other locations of inflatable devices, elements, members, structures, etc.

99, Foods and Beverages: Apparatus, subclass 646 for a silo breather bag.

244, Aeronautics, subclasses 31+ for lighter-than-air balloons.

441, Buoys, Rafts, and Aquatic Devices, subclass 125 for an inflatable baglike device which functions as a personal flotation device.

446, Amusement Devices: Toys, subclasses 87+ for inflatable amusement devices and toys.

473, Games Using Tangible Projectile, subclasses 569+ for an inflatable projectile (e.g., a basketball, football, soccerball, etc.) used in a game or sport.

#### 4 CONVERTIBLE:

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag is disclosed as being transformable into a nonbag device.

## SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

190, Trunks and Hand-Carried Luggage, subclasses 1+ for an article of luggage which is convertible to or from non-luggage device.

**5 TAMPER INDICATING:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag includes means which reveals that an unauthorized person has attempted to gain or has gained access to the bag.

## SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

116, Signals and Indicators, for indicators, per se, which may be used to indicate tampering.  
206, Special Receptacle or Package, subclass 807 for a cross-reference art collections of tamper resistant containers.

**6 LIFTING OR SUSPENDING ELEMENT (E.G., HANDLE):**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag includes structure designed to cooperate directly with an unclaimed, extraneous support for the purpose of pendantly supporting the bag on said support.

- (1) Note. "Pendantly supporting" is defined as either hanging or lifting the bag against the pull of gravity.
- (2) Note. An "extraneous support" may be a peg, a hook, a clothesline, a human hand, etc.
- (3) Note. The part of the bag which is deemed to be the "lifting or suspending element" is always the claimed structure which engages directly with the unclaimed, extraneous support.
- (4) Note. The claimed combination of a bag with (for example) a detachable handle or hook, etc., is properly classified in this or indented subclasses if the handle or hook is used for engagement with an unclaimed extraneous support.

## SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

16, Miscellaneous Hardware, subclasses 110.1 through 430 for a handle, per se.  
190, Trunks and Hand-Carried Luggage, subclass 39 for a trunk combined with a handle, and subclasses 115+, for an article of hand carried luggage combined with a handle.

**7 Unitary with bag (e.g., element formed by hand hole):**

This subclass is indented under subclass 6. Subject matter wherein the lifting or suspending element is one piece with the bag.

- (1) Note. Structure combined with, and reinforcing, a unitary lifting or suspending element is included here.

**8 Loop extending between opposite walls:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 7. Subject matter wherein the unitary lifting or suspending element is a strip of bag material which is connected at its ends to two opposed portions of the peripheral wall, e.g., front and rear walls.

**9 Bag material includes aperture for rodlike support:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 7. Subject matter wherein the bag includes an opening in the material thereof, which opening is by disclosure to receive a slender, elongated, cylindrically-shaped support or like element.

- (1) Note. A bag which includes a plurality of openings, each of which is sized to receive a rodlike support, is classified here.
- (2) Note. The "lifting or suspending element" is considered to be that part of the bag, above the hand opening, which is engaged by the hand.
- (3) Note. A bag having a slit which defines the perimeter of a flap which can be folded out of the plane of the bag wall to form an aperture is proper for this subclass.

- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:
- 7, for a bag having a unitary folded portion which can receive a rodlike support under the fold.
- 10, for a bag which includes an opening sized to receive more than one finger.
- 10 Bag material includes hand-receiving aperture:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 7. Subject matter wherein the bag includes an opening in the bag material which is intended, by disclosure, to receive a hand.
- (1) Note. A bag having an opening which is sized to receive more than one finger but not a whole hand is classified here.
- (2) Note. The "lifting or suspending element" is considered to be that part of the bag, above the hand opening, which is engaged by the hand.
- (3) Note. A bag having a slit which defines the perimeter of a flap which can be folded out of the plane of the bag wall to form an aperture is proper for this subclass.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:
- 9, for similar subject matter wherein an aperture is sized to receive only one finger.
- 11 Magnetic or adhesive-type element (includes Velcro® 4121;):**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 6. Subject matter wherein the lifting or suspending element is attached to the extraneous support by an adhesive, Velcro® 4121; or magnetic-type coupling.
- (1) Note. The bag is normally easily removed from the support.
- 12 Attached to bag frame:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 6. Subject matter wherein the lifting or suspending element is connected to a rigid element or plurality of elements which form a closed geometrical configuration and maintain part of the bag in a given configuration, e.g., mouth frame.
- 13 Detachable:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 6. Subject matter including means permitting the element to be removed from the bag.
- SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:
- 190, Trunks and Hand-Carried Luggage, subclass 116 for an article of hand carried luggage combined with a detachable handle.
- 14 With provision for positioning element in nonuse location:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 6. Subject matter wherein the bag or the lifting or suspending element is provided with specified means which maintains the lifting or suspending element in a given position or configuration from which (or out of which) it must be at least partially moved or removed before it can function as a handle.
- SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:
- D3, Travel Goods and Personal Belongings, subclass 72 for a design patent for a container having a recessed handle which extends to an operative position.
- 15 Plural interengaging elements:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 6. Subject matter wherein at least two lifting or suspending elements include means which hold them together during the lifting or suspending function.
- (1) Note. A bag having two lifting or suspending elements which are merely grasped simultaneously with one hand are classified on other features.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:
- 25, for a single lifting or suspending loop which passes through a smaller loop to close the bag mouth.
- SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:
- 190, Trunks and Hand-Carried Luggage, subclass 117 for an article of hand carried luggage combined with a han-

dle having plural interengaging elements.

**16 Plural elements located at diverse bag regions (i.e., bag bottom, bag middle, and/or bag top):**

This subclass is indented under subclass 6. Subject matter wherein at least two lifting or suspending elements are provided, each of which has a gripping portion which is located at a different bag area from the other.

- (1) Note. For purposes of this definition a bag is considered to have three distinct areas or regions: The bag top being located at or adjacent the access opening, the bag bottom being opposite the bag top, and the bag middle being in between the top and bottom.

**17 Including reinforcement or stress distribution means attached to or adjacent element:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 6. Subject matter wherein the bag or element includes structure which enhances the transfer of the bag load to the lifting or suspending element.

- (1) Note. Included in this and indented subclasses are arrangements that: (1) Strengthen the attachment of the element to the bag, (frequently by increasing the area of contact or reinforcing that area) and/or (2) effectively extend the handle down the sides of the bag or completely under the bag bottom (either as an extension of the handle material itself or as a reinforced strip).

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:

- 7+, for similar features combined with a unitary element.  
903, for stress relief features not involving the lifting or suspending element.

**18 Extending across bag bottom:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 17. Subject matter wherein the element either traverses, or is attached to a reinforcing means which traverses, the bottom of the bag.

- (1) Note. The reinforcement or stress distribution means may be located either inside or outside the bag.

**19 Extending axially through bag interior to bag bottom:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 17. Subject matter wherein an elongated member extends centrally through the inside of the bag and is attached to the bag at a plurality of vertically spaced places at least one of which is at or adjacent the bottom.

**20 Additional layer of material at element attachment location:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 17. Subject matter wherein the reinforcement or stress distribution means is an additional layer of material at the place of attachment of the lifting or suspending element.

- (1) Note. The reinforcement or stress distribution means may be a folded section of bag material.

**21 Attached to distinct end wall:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 6. Subject matter wherein the lifting or suspending element is attached to an end of the bag which has clearly discernible boundaries, e.g., fold lines.

**22 Hanging element:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 6. Subject matter wherein the element, by disclosure, is used for suspending the bag from an inanimate, usually stationary support.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:

- 7+, for a bag having a hanging element which is unitary therewith.

**23 Hook-type:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 22. Subject matter wherein the suspending element is bent or curved to form an open-sided geometrical configuration with the open side facing generally downwardly.

- 24 Closed loop:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 22. Subject matter wherein the suspending element includes a double-over portion, the ends of which are secured to one another and the bag.
- 25 Single element:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 6. Subject matter wherein the bag includes only one lifting or suspending element.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:  
7+, for a bag having a single element which is unitary therewith.
- 26 Bag includes opening through bag material to receive element:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 25. Subject matter wherein the bag includes a gap or hole in the material thereof which is adapted to receive the lifting or suspending element.
- 27 Opening extending through fold or folded bag portion:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 26. Subject matter wherein part of the bag is folded along a fold line, and a gap or hole adapted to receive the lifting or suspending element is located within the fold.
- 28 Secured to bag interior:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 25. Subject matter wherein the element is attached to the inside portion of the bag.
- 29 Straddles bag mouth:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 25. Subject matter wherein the lifting or suspending element extends across the access opening and has portions which overlap the exterior of opposed peripheral wall portions.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:  
8, for a lifting or suspending element which straddles the bag mouth and is unitary with the bag.
- 30 Secured to folded bag closure:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 25. Subject matter wherein the element is attached to a portion of the bag which is foldable or has been folded to close the bag mouth.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:  
88+, for bags that are closed by the folding wall portions on a common fold line.
- 31 Closure flap:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 30. Subject matter wherein the folded bag portion includes a piece of bag material which extends from one bag wall across the access opening, and overlies a portion of the opposed bag wall when the bag mouth is closed.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:  
84+, for a closure flap, per se.
- SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:  
190, Trunks and Hand-Carried Luggage, subclass 902 for a brief case having a closure flap.
- 32 WITH STACKING FEATURE:**  
This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag includes means to aid in maintaining the relative position of it and at least one other bag, one on top of the other.
- (1) Note. Included herein is a bag whose exterior surface is made to be tacky to provide slip resistance between it and a vertically positioned bag.
- SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:  
206, Special Receptacle or Package, subclasses 503+ for special receptacles or packages of that class type having structural features or vertical stacking of similar receptacles.
- 33 WITH MEANS TO MAINTAIN THE BAG MOUTH IN A OPEN CONFIGURATION:**  
This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter including means associated with the bag access opening to hold it

open during insertion or removal of bag contents.

- (1) Note. Included here are reinforcing elements around the bag mouth to maintain it in a given geometrical shape during filling.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:

43, for resilient closing means. 104, for free-standing bags which may inherently provide open mouths but do not have means specifically associated with the bag mouths.

119, for other bag wall reinforcements.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

141, Fluent Material Handling, With Receiver or Receiver Coating Means, subclass 390 and 391 for a bag having a separate filling aid which is disclosed as being removable from the bag when not in use.

190, Trunks and Hand-Carried Luggage, subclass 106 for an article of hand carried luggage having means to bias the luggage mouth into an open configuration.

### **34 Hinged mouth stiffeners:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 33. Subject matter wherein the access opening includes reinforcing elements which are articulated to one another.

#### **34.1 Stiffeners include four or more hinged segments:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 34. Subject matter including four or more reinforcing elements articulated at four or more joints.

### **35 WITH MEANS TO FACILITATE MANUAL SEPARATION OF FLATTENED BAG WALLS:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag includes means which air in separating flatten peripheral wall portions from one another by hand.

- (1) Note. Tabs or other elements which are grasped for the purpose of pulling apart closure elements (e.g., rib and groove

elements) are classified with the particular closure.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:

33, for means which maintain the access opening in the open position.

73, for a bag having a drawstring-type securing element and a mouth opening aid.

### **36 WITH INTEGRAL FUNNEL:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag mouth is surrounded by tapered structure, usually cone shaped, which directs a flow of material into the bag.

- (1) Note. The tapered structure must be permanently attached to the bag.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

141, Fluent Material Handling, With Receiver or Receiver Coating Means, for a bag having a separate filling aid which is designed to be removed from the bag when not in use.

### **37 PLURAL:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter comprising more than one bag.

- (1) Note. Plural bags connected together or to a common element are included herein if they are separable and independently usable.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:

38, for a bag having more than one compartment, or plural bags permanently attached to a common support or to each other.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

206, Special Receptacle or Package, subclass 390 for plural bags connected in series in roll form and subclass 554 for a package of plural bags.

**38 COMPARTMENTED:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag includes means forming two content holding sections which are separated from one another.

**SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:**

- 190, Trunks and Hand-Carried Luggage, subclasses 109+ for a compartmented article of hand carried luggage.
- 206, Special Receptacle or Package, subclasses 219+ for a compartmented bag designed to permit mixing of separated materials, subclass 216 for a compartmented bag for two or more diverse articles or materials, and subclass 568 for a bag for two or more separate, particular materials disclosed for commingling externally of the bag.

**39 Compartment-forming member secured to backing:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 38. Subject matter wherein the bag includes a first planar element seamed to a second element at three or more spaced locations in order to form compartments between adjacent seams.

**40 Including auxiliary compartment:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 38. Subject matter wherein the bag includes a main or primary bag section or compartment and another, secondary compartment.

- (1) Note. The main compartment must be either significantly larger than the auxiliary or disclosed as a main or primary compartment.
- (2) Note. The auxiliary compartment is usually designed to receive contents which are different from those received by the main compartment.

**41 WITH PLURAL ACCESS OPENINGS:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein two or more openings in the bag are claimed which are independently usable for insertion or removal of content.

- (1) Note. A portion of the bag, presently sealed, which is claimed as a past opening (e.g., filling) or future opening (e.g., emptying) is considered to be an opening for this subclass.

**SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:**

- 61.1 through 61.5, for a bag having independent closures for a single access opening.
- 210.1, for a bag closure secured by a releasable or frangible bond having another independent closure for same access opening.

**SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:**

- 190, Trunks and Hand-Carried Luggage, subclass 112 for an article of hand carried luggage having more than one access opening.

**42 WITH CLOSURE:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag includes means for preventing insertion or removal of content through the same access opening.

- (1) Note. Where the closure for the access opening (e.g., top) and end structure (e.g., bottom) are not distinguishable, the reference is classified hereunder.

**SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:**

- 121, for end structure which does not close the access opening.

**SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:**

- 24, Buckles, Buttons, Clasps, etc., subclass 30.5 for a bag closure, per se.

**43 Self-closing type:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter wherein the closure functions to close the access opening without manual manipulation.

- (1) Note. A claimed bag closure which is inherently self-closing is classified hereunder.

- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:  
 33, for means to maintain the bag mouth in an open configuration which may also be self-closing.  
 103, for bag vents having closures.
- SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:  
 206, Special Receptacle on Package, subclass 260 and 266 for tobacco containing pouches which may be self-closing.
- 44 Responsive to content (e.g., valve):**  
 This subclass is indented under subclass 43. Subject matter wherein the weight or pressure of the content forces the closure into its closed configuration.
- (1) Note. A claimed bag closure which inherently closed by the content (i.e., valve bag) is classified in this and indented subclasses.
- 45 With vent:**  
 This subclass is indented under subclass 44. Subject matter wherein the bag further includes means for relieving any pressure differential between the bag interior and exterior.
- (1) Note. A bag having a vent which allows the escape of air while the bag is being filled is classified here.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:  
 100+, for a nonvalve bag with a vent.
- 46 With closure reinforcing or stiffening means:**  
 This subclass is indented under subclass 44. Subject matter wherein the bag closure includes means for increasing its strength or rigidity.
- 47 With means to facilitate opening closure:**  
 This subclass is indented under subclass 44. Subject matter wherein the bag is provided with means which aid in opening the closure during filling.
- 48 With supplemental closing feature:**  
 This subclass is indented under subclass 44. Subject matter wherein the bag includes means which, in addition to the weight or pressure of the content, aid in closing the access opening.
- (1) Note. The supplemental feature may be a unitary part of the closing means.
- 49 Resilient:**  
 This subclass is indented under subclass 48. Subject matter wherein the closure is elastically biased toward the closed condition.
- (1) Note. The elasticity may be an inherent property of the closure, per se.
- 50 Reversely folded portion of closure element:**  
 This subclass is indented under subclass 48. Subject matter wherein the supplemental closing feature comprises a portion of the closure which is intended to be folded upon the remainder thereof.
- 51 Slit or slot:**  
 This subclass is indented under subclass 48. Subject matter wherein an elongated cut or opening extends through the material of the closure for the purpose of increasing its flexibility to enhance closing.
- 52 Adhesive:**  
 This subclass is indented under subclass 48. Subject matter wherein the supplemental closing feature is an adherent.
- 53 In distinct end wall:**  
 This subclass is indented under subclass 44. Subject matter wherein the closure is located in an end of the bag, said end having clearly discernible boundaries e.g., fold lines.
- 54 Including separate closure element:**  
 This subclass is indented under subclass 53. Subject matter wherein the closure includes an initially separate member which has been secured to the bag.
- 55 Folded bag corner:**  
 This subclass is indented under subclass 44. Subject matter wherein the closure includes a portion of the bag which is bounded on two

sides by intersecting bag edges and has been doubled over.

**56 Including separate closure element:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 55. Subject matter wherein the closure includes an initially separate member which has been secured to the bag.

**57 Closure includes inwardly folded bag wall portions:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 44. Subject matter wherein the closure comprises two parts of the peripheral wall which have been folded into the bag interior and which form opposing portions of the periphery of the bag mouth.

**58 Overlying access opening in bag material:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 44. Subject matter wherein the closure element covers a slit or hole in the bag through which the bag is intended to be filled or emptied.

**59 Including auxiliary means for forming leak-proof closure seal:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter wherein the bag includes means, in addition to the closure, for preventing the ingress of gas or liquid, or egress of bag contents around the element.

**60 Annular gasket:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 59. Subject matter wherein the auxiliary means is a distinct sealing ring interposed between the closure and the bag.

**61.1. Independent closures for single access opening:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter wherein a single access opening includes more than one closure element each of which is capable of closing the access opening by itself.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:

203 through 204, for a bag having means to facilitate opening it by severing bag material or bag part (e.g., tearing, cutting, piercing, etc.) including means for reclosing the bag.

210.1, for a bag closure secured by a releasable or frangible bond (e.g., peel seal, etc.) having another independent closure for same access opening.

**61.2. Having rib and groove:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 61.1. Subject matter wherein the closures include a closure having a projection that is integral with and extends along at least a side peripheral wall portion of the same access opening which interlocks with a mating recess extending along an opposite side peripheral wall portion of the same access opening.

(1) Note. This does not include a snap fastener having a ball-like projection that fits into a resilient complimentary socket.

(2) Note. This does not include a zipper having a plurality of complementary and interlocking teeth that cooperate with a slider or runner which functions to interconnect or separate the teeth.

**61.3. Having zipper:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 61.1. Subject matter wherein the closures include a closure having a plurality of complementary and interlocking teeth on both peripheral wall sides of the same access opening that cooperate with a slider or runner which functions to interconnect or separate the teeth.

**61.4. Having drawstring-type element:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 61.1. Subject matter wherein the closures include a closure having a string, cord, or tape inserted into a hem or casing, or laced through eyelets around a peripheral wall of the same access opening wherein the string, cord, or tape is capable of being pulled to close the same access opening.

**61.5. Having securing element designed to extend through aligned openings in bag material (e.g., stitching, etc.):**

This subclass is indented under subclass 61.1. Subject matter wherein the closures include a closure having a component extending through aligned holes or interstices of a weave in opposed portions of a peripheral wall of the

same access opening to close the same access opening.

**62 With provision for positioning closure element in nonuse location:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter wherein the bag includes specified means for maintaining the closure element in a given position or configuration from which (or out of which) it must be at least partially moved or removed before it can function as a closure.

**63 Rib and groove:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter wherein the closure includes a projection which is integral with and extends along at least a portion of the opening and which interlocks with a mating recess extending along an opposite portion of the opening.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

24, Buckles, Buttons, Clasps, etc., subclasses 588+ for rib and groove elements, per se.

**64 With sliding element:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 63. Subject matter wherein the bag includes an element which straddles the rib and groove closing means and is slideable there along for the purpose of pressing or holding the rib and groove in interlocking relationship.

**65 Including means to facilitate disengagement:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 63. Subject matter wherein the bag includes means (e.g., pull tabs) which aid in the separation of the rib and groove during opening of the bag.

**66 For access opening in sidewall:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter wherein the peripheral wall of the bag includes an access opening which can be closed by the closure.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

190, Trunks and Hand-Carried Luggage, subclass 113 for an article of hand carried luggage having a closure panel struck from the luggage wall.

**67 For access opening in bag bottom:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter wherein the part of the bag which is lowermost during normal usage thereof is provided with an access opening which can be closed by the closure.

**68 Elongated clamping elements:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter wherein the closure includes two, essentially rigid members which extend substantially completely along the opposite sides of the bag mouth with means cooperating with the members to press or hold the bag mouth shut.

(1) Note. The members can be separate bars or opposed portions of a one piece clip.

(2) Note. The clamping action must perform the closing function not merely secure the closing means to the bag.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:

905, for ductile clamp-like devices.

**69 Sliding:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 68. Subject matter wherein the closure includes an element which slides relative to, and in engagement with bag material in order to effect bag closure.

**70 Twisted bag mouth:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter having means to facilitate closing the bag by turning a portion of the bag so as to form a spiral.

**71 Gathered bag mouth:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter having means whereby the material surrounding the access opening is "bunched-up" together to close the opening.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:

96, for a plug-type closure which may have the bag mouth gathered about it.

**72 Including drawstring-type securing element:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 71. Subject matter wherein the bag mouth is gathered together by a cord or beltlike element.

**SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:**

D3, Travel Goods, and Personal Belongings, and Storage or Carrying Articles, subclass 41 for design patents for cases having drawstrings.

**73 With mouth opening aid:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 72. Subject matter wherein means is provided to facilitate the opening of the bag after it has been closed by the drawstring.

**SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:**

35, for a bar having means to facilitate manual separation of flattened bag walls.

**74 With means to maintaining the securing element in closed configuration:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 72. Subject matter wherein the bag includes means which retards or prevent the drawstring from returning to its open-bag configuration after it has been used to close the bag.

**75 In bag hem:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 72. Subject matter wherein the bag includes a folded portion of bag material which has been secured to the peripheral wall around the access opening and wherein the drawstring extends between the folded portion and the bag wall.

**76 Through bag openings:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 72. Subject matter wherein the drawstring extends through holes in the bag material or interstices of its weave and alternates between the interior and exterior of the bag.

**77 Securing element consisting of unitary bag portion:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 71. Subject matter wherein the closing means includes an element which is of "one-piece" with the bag.

**78 Including separate closure element for straddling bag mouth (i.e., overlaps exterior portions of opposed bag walls):**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter wherein the closure includes an initially unattached element which is disclosed as being for directly overlying the access opening and overlapping the exterior or opposed peripheral wall portions when the bag is closed.

**SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:**

84, for a bag with a similar closure which does not straddle (i.e., overlap exterior portions of) the mouth.

88, for a bag closed by folding or rolling the bag walls together and then securing it by means of an element secured to two opposing bag walls.

**79 Including securing element designed to extend through aligned openings in closure element (e.g., stitching):**

This subclass is indented under subclass 78. Subject matter wherein element extends through aligned holes in opposed portions of the closure element (or interstices in the weave) when the bag mouth is closed.

**SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:**

903, for similar subject matter which is designed to relieve stress at particular locations of a bag.

**80 Cap-type:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 78. Subject matter wherein the bag includes a closure element which is designed to overlie the access opening and has a depending skirt to flange which is designed to surround the mouth and to overlap adjacent areas of the peripheral wall.

- (1) Note. This subclass does not include bags having access openings whose walls are flattened together before being covered.
- 81 Reusable:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 76. Subject matter wherein the closure element can be used to close the bag more than once.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:  
80, for a reusable cap-type closure element.  
86, for similar subject matter for a flap type closure which does not straddle the bag mouth (i.e., overlap exterior portions).
- 82 Bag walls designed to be rolled together or folded on common fold line:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 81. Subject matter wherein opposing portions of the peripheral bag wall (e.g., front and rear walls are either doubled-over along the same line or curled up together when the bag mouth is closed.
- 83 Bag walls designed to be rolled together or folded on common fold line:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 78. Subject matter wherein opposing portions of the peripheral bag wall are either doubled-over along the same line or are curled up together when the bag mouth is closed.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:  
85, for similar subject matter involving a closure flap which does not straddle (i.e., overlap exterior portions of) the bag mouth.  
88, for bags which are closed by folding the bag walls along a common fold line but do not have an element straddling the access opening.
- 84 Including closure flap which overlaps side-wall exterior when closed:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter wherein the closure comprises a piece of material which extends from one bag wall, across the access opening, and overlies a portion of the opposed wall when the bag mouth is in the closed configuration.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:  
78, for a bag having a closure flap which straddles (i.e., overlaps exterior portions of) the bag mouth.
- SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:  
224, Package and Article Carriers, subclasses 236+ for an article receiver of that class type having a closure flap.
- 85 Bag walls designed to be rolled together or folded on common fold line:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 84. Subject matter wherein opposing peripheral wall portions are either doubled over along the same line or are curled up together when the bag mouth is closed.
- 86 Reusable:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 84. Subject matter wherein the closure flap can be used to close the bag mouth more than once.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:  
85, for a bag which has an openable closure flap as well as bag walls which are designed to be rolled together or folded on a common fold line.
- 86.1 Including fastening element removably extending through aperture in bag material:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 86. Subject matter including a securing member having an element which passes through a hole in the bag material adjacent the bag mouth to keep it closed.
- 86.2 Aperture extends through closure flap:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 86.1. Subject matter wherein the hole in the bag material is located in the closure flap.
- 87 Flap side edges permanently secured to bag (e.g., sandwich bag type):**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 86. Subject matter wherein the sides of the flap are permanently secured to and extend along the bag walls so as to hold the flap in overlapped position with respect to the peripheral bag wall.

**88 Bag walls designed to be rolled together or folded on common fold line:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter wherein opposing portions of the peripheral bag wall (e.g., front and rear walls) are either doubled-over along the same line or are curled up together when the bag mouth is closed.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:

82, for bags which are closed by a closure element which straddles the access opening and which have their bag walls folded on a common fold line or rolled together.

**89 With separate securing element for roll or fold:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 88. Subject matter including means additional to and distinct from bag material, for maintaining the rolled or folded portions of the bag walls in position when the bag is closed.

(1) Note. The "additional" means may be, for example, an adhesive.

**90 Element extends substantially 180 or more around roll or fold:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 89. Subject matter wherein the securing element is folded approximately 180 or more around the rolled or folded bag walls.

**91 Element extends around side edge:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 90. Subject matter wherein the securing element is folded around a lateral bag edge in a direction which is generally parallel with the extent of the bag mouth.

**92 Including securing element designed to extend through aligned openings in bag material (e.g., stitching):**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter wherein an element extends through aligned holes in opposed portions of the peripheral wall (or interstices of its weave) when the bag mouth is closed.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:

71+, for similar subject matter which gathers the bag mouth.

79, for similar subject matter wherein the securing element additionally extends through a separate closure element.

**93 Closure within bag:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter wherein the means for closing the access opening is located inside the bag peripheral walls.

(1) Note. The closure means may be either a separate element or an integral connection between bag walls, e.g., heat seal.

**94 Heat seal:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 93. Subject matter wherein the closure includes portions of bag material which have been welded together.

**95 Reusable:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 93. Subject matter wherein the closure can be used to close the bag more than once.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUB-CLASS:

81, and 86, for reusable closures which straddle or fold across the bag mouth, respectively.

**96 Stopper or plug:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 95. Subject matter wherein the closure is a plug or stopper type.

**97 Zipper:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 95. Subject matter wherein the closure comprises a plurality of complementary, interlocking hook members which cooperate with a slider or runner which functions to interconnect or separate the hook members.

**98 Overlapped flaps:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 42. Subject matter wherein the closure includes at least two flaps which overlap one another when the bag mouth is closed.

- (1) Note. The flaps are usually folded portions of the peripheral wall.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:  
125, for a bag end structure comprising overlapped flaps.
- 99 Reusable:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 98. Subject matter wherein the flaps can be used to close the bag more than once.
- 100 WITH VENTING OR VENTILATION MEANS:**  
This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag comprises either (1) means for relieving positive or negative pressure inside the bag (or bag structure), or (2) means which allow circulation of fluid (e.g., air) into and out of the bag.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:  
45, for a bag having a content responsive closure and a vent.
- SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:  
55, Gas Separation, subclass 429 and Digest 2 for vacuum cleaner bags.  
220, Receptacles, subclasses 203.01+ for a receptacle closure comprising a pressure responsive vent or valve.
- 101 Fluid circulates between bag plies:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 100. Subject matter wherein the vented fluid travels, at least in part, between two layers of a multi-layer bag.
- 102 Previous material:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 100. Subject matter wherein the element or elements through which the venting or ventilating function is effected are made from a material which is permeable to the vented fluid.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:  
103, for a bag having a venting or ventilating opening which is not a pore or interstice of the material through which the vented fluid passes.
- 103 Opening in bag material:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 100. Subject matter wherein the vented fluid passes through an aperture or slit in the bag.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:  
43+, for a valve bag, which is filled or emptied through the opening.  
102, for bags which are vented or ventilated through the permeable material, (i.e., passes through pores or interstices of the material).
- 104 FREE-STANDING:**  
This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter including means to maintain the bag in an upright configuration.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:  
33, for bags having means which specifically maintain the bag mouth in an open configuration (i.e., more than the incidental result of being free-standing).
- SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:  
220, Receptacles, subclasses 9.1+ and 9.4 for a bag united with a three-dimensional self-sustaining framework, and subclasses 495.06+ for a removable bag combined with a support, wherein the bag is more than nominally claimed.  
248, Supports, subclass 95 for a bag support, per se, or a removable bag support combined with a bag, wherein the claim (1) nominally recites the bag, (2) recites only those bag features necessary to cooperate specifically with the support, or (3) recited only those bag features which have been modified specifically to cooperate with the support.
- 105 WALL DETAILS:**  
This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the peripheral side wall includes a specified feature.

- (1) Note. The mere recitation of, for example, a "sidewall" or "wall panel" is not considered to be a specified feature.
- 106 Transparent portion or window:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 105. Subject matter wherein the peripheral wall is provided with means for viewing a portion of the bag content.
- (1) Note. A "window" may be nothing more than an aperture through the bag material.
- 107 Specified seam structure:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 105. Subject matter including details of a joint which connects two parts of the peripheral wall.
- (1) Note. The mere recitation of a "seam" or "connection" is not included here.
- 108 Waterproof:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 107. Subject matter wherein the seam is constructed so as to prevent the passage of liquid through it.
- 109 Multi-layer or ply:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 105. Subject matter wherein the bag material includes more than one layer of material over substantially the entire surface area of the bag.
- (1) Note. A coating is considered to be a "layer" or "ply".
- 110 Insulated:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 109. Subject matter wherein one of the layers is designed to retard the transfer of heat there-through.
- 111 Removable ply:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 109. Subject matter wherein provision is made to allow one of the layers to be separated from another.
- 112 Stretchable layer or ply:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 109. Subject matter wherein one of the layers is designed to be extended.
- (1) Note. A stretchable material may be either elastic or inelastic.
- 113 Barrier layer or ply (e.g., waterproof):**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 109. Subject matter wherein one of the plies prevents a specified substance from penetrating it.
- 114 Including specified end structure:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 109. Subject matter including details of the bag bottom.
- 115 Overlapping extension formed by cuts in bag wall:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 114. Subject matter wherein portions of the peripheral wall located opposite one another, can be folded so as to partially lie one over the other; and wherein one of the portions is formed by a pair of slits or slots.
- SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:  
126, for similar end structure where the bag wall is formed of a single layer of ply.
- 116 Coating or lamination:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 109. Subject matter wherein at least two layers are substantially coextensively bonded to one another.
- 117 Woven or mesh-type material:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 105. Subject matter wherein the bag is made from a material which is formed from interengaged or interconnected strands.
- 118 Stretchable:**  
This subclass is indented under subclass 105. Subject matter wherein the bag wall material is designed to be extended.
- (1) Note. A stretchable material may be either elastic or inelastic.

**119 Reinforced:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 105. Subject matter wherein the peripheral wall of the bag includes means which strengthen or stiffen it.

- (1) Note. This subclass is not intended to be a complete collection of reinforced bags. Therefore, search the appropriate preceding subclass for a bag having a reinforcement located in or on a particular element which is provided for in that subclass.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:

- 104, for a free standing bag having a reinforced peripheral wall.

**120 Pleated or gusseted:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 105. Subject matter wherein a portion of the peripheral side wall is doubled over or folded.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

- 138, Pipes and Tubular Conduits, subclass 118.1 for an open ended casing which is not disclosed as being edible.  
206, Special Receptacle or Package, subclass 802 for a Cross-Reference Art Collection of shirred casings.  
426, Food or Edible Material: Processes, Compositions, and Products, subclasses 106+ for a casing containing food, and subclasses 138+ for a casing, either closed or open ended, which is disclosed as being edible.  
428, Stock Material or Miscellaneous Articles, subclasses 35.1+ for an inedible food casing having a closed end.

**121 END STRUCTURE (E.G. BOTTOM):**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag includes a specified feature of the closed end.

**121.1 Rigid bottom:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 121. Subject matter wherein the bag bottom is made of stiff, inflexible material.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

- 220, Receptacles, subclass 904 for a cross-reference art collection of buckets and pails.

**122 Seamless:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 121. Subject matter wherein the bag bottom is a continuous, unitary segment of two opposing peripheral wall portions.

- (1) Note. While no seams are used to form the bottom, other portions of the bag may be secured to it by seams.

**123 Formed by folding bag walls on common fold line and joining together:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 121. Subject matter wherein the bag bottom is formed by initially doubling over opposed bag walls along a common fold line and securing (e.g., gluing) them together.

**124 Foldable to form distinct end wall:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 123. Subject matter wherein the bag bottom has areas which can be overlapped to produce a discernible bottom wall.

**125 Overlapping extensions of opposed walls:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 121. Subject matter wherein portions of the peripheral wall located opposite one another can be folded so as to partially lay over one another.

**126 Extension formed by cuts in bag wall:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 125. Subject matter wherein one of the overlapping extensions is disclosed as being formed by a pair of slits or slots in the peripheral wall.

**127 MISCELLANEOUS:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter comprising a bag not provided for else where.

**200 BAG HAVING MEANS TO FACILITATE OPENING IT BY SEVERING BAG MATERIAL OR BAG PART (E.G., TEARING, CUTTING, PIERCING, ETC.):**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag includes means which facilitate forming an access open-

ing by splitting or puncturing the bag material or a bag part.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

- 229, Envelopes, Wrappers, and Paperboard Boxes, subclass 87.05 for a wrapper having severing means, subclasses 307+ for an envelope with severing means, and subclass 210 for a box having a closure secured by a releasable or frangible bond.
- 428, Stock Material or Miscellaneous Articles, subclass 43 for a sheet, web, or layer which has been weakened to facilitate tearing and subclasses 131+, particularly subclass 136, for sheet material having slits or apertures.

**201 Tearing facilitated by specified fiber or molecular orientation:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 200. Subject matter wherein the bag material or an attached tearing means includes either filaments or molecules arranged in a particular way to make it easier to tear open the bag.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:

- 908, for an art collection of bags made from material having a specified grain direction or molecular orientation.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

- 229, Envelopes, Wrappers, and Paperboard Boxes, subclass 205 for a box having a specified fiber or molecular orientation.
- 428, Stock Material or Miscellaneous Articles, subclasses 105+ for grain, strips, or filamentary elements in respective layers, or components in angular relation, subclass 114 for grain, strips, or filamentary elements in different layers, or components in parallel relation, and subclass 910 for a cross-reference art collection of products made from material having molecular orientation.

**202 Combined with, or modified for opening by, a sharp-edged cutting implement or a piercing implement:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 200. Subject matter combined with, or modified for opening by, an instrument having a keen edge or a fine point.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:

- 205, for a bag having a separate tearing element (e.g., tear string) which is gripped and pulled to open the bag.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

- 30, Cutlery, for a cutting implement, per se.
- 220, Receptacles, subclasses 277+ for a closure having cutting, punching, or cutter-accommodating means.
- 221, Article Dispensing, subclasses 31+ for a dispensing means having a cutter or punch for forming an outlet opening.
- 222, Dispensing, subclasses 81+ for a dispensing means having a cutter or punch for forming a dispensing opening in a container.
- 229, Envelopes, Wrappers, and Paperboard Boxes, subclass 204 for a box combined with, or modified for opening by, a cutting implement, and subclass 308 for an envelope combined with, or modified for opening by, a cutting implement.

**203 Including means for reclosing the bag:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 200. Subject matter wherein the bag includes structure for closing it after it has been opened.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:

- 61.1 through 61.5, for a bag having independent closures for single access opening.

**204 Including a bag portion which is completely separated from the bag during tearing (e.g., tear strip)**

This subclass is indented under subclass 203. Subject matter wherein the bag is torn open by detaching part of the bag from the remainder of the bag.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:

209, for a bag having a line of weakness which delineates substantially the entire tearing path and having a portion which is completely separated during tearing.

**205 Including a separate tearing element which is gripped and pulled to open the bag:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 200. Subject matter wherein the opening means includes a member which is not of one-piece construction with the bag but is attached to it and is manually grasped and drawn away from the bag during tearing.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

215, Bottles and Jars, subclasses 254+ for a bottle or jar closure which is opened by pulling a separate tearing element.

220, Receptacles, subclasses 279+ for a closure which is opened by pulling a separate tearing element.

229, Envelopes, Wrappers, and Paperboard Boxes, subclasses 238+ for a box which is openable by pulling a separate tearing element and subclasses 309+ for an envelope which is openable by pulling a separate tearing element.

**206 Cord, string, wire, or thread:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 205. Subject matter wherein the separate tearing element is a slender, flexible, filamentlike element.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

215, Bottles and Jars, subclass 257 for a bottle or jar closure having a wire or string rip cord.

220, Receptacles, subclasses 279+ for a closure having a thread, string, cord, or wire for tearing it open.

229, Envelopes, Wrappers, and Paperboard Boxes, subclass 239 for a box having a thread, string, cord, or wire for tearing it open and subclass 311 for an envelope having a thread, string, cord, or wire for tearing it open.

**207 Line of weakness delineates substantially the entire tearing path:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 200. Subject matter wherein the bag includes a line of reduced strength which defines almost all of the extent of the tearing.

**208 Line of perforations having means for preventing leakage before opening:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 207. Subject matter wherein the line of weakness is a series of holes or incisions through the bag material and wherein the bag includes structure to prevent passage of fluent material through the holes or incisions.

**209 Bag portion completely separated from the bag during tearing:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 207. Subject matter wherein the bag is torn open by detaching part of the bag from the remainder of the bag.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:

204, for a reclosable bag having a portion which is completely separated during tearing.

**210 BAG CLOSURE SECURED BY A RELEASABLE OR FRANGIBLE BOND (E.G., PEEL SEAL):**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein at least two parts of the bag are secured together by a peelable or frangible adhering means (e.g., glue, heat seal, etc.) so that the parts may be easily separated without tearing the bag or the bag closure to gain access to the contents of the bag.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:

229, Envelopes, Wrappers, and Paperboard Boxes, subclass 80.5 for an envelope having a releasable or frangible bond, subclass 123.1 for a box having a separate peelable closure or securing ele-

ment, and subclasses 245+ for releasably bonded box parts.

**210.1. Having another independent closure for same access opening:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 210. Subject matter wherein the bag closure includes another separate means to gain access to the contents of the bag along the identical parts of the bag secured by the releasable or frangible bond.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:

61.1 through 61.5, for a bag having independent closures for single access opening.

203 through 204, for a bag having means to facilitate opening it by severing bag material or bag part (e.g., tearing, cutting, piercing, etc.) including means for reclosing the bag.

**211 Adhesive bond:**

This subclass is indented under subclass 210. Subject matter wherein the releasable or frangible bond is formed by means of a sticky substance (e.g., glue) which has been applied to the bag or closure.

**CROSS-REFERENCE ART COLLECTIONS**

**901 HOT WATER OR ICE BAG:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag is intended to be used to hold a hot or cold substance, usually to warm or cool a portion of a users body.

**902 HAVING NONBAG USE:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag is intended to be used for something other than holding contents intended to be removed.

**903 STRESS RELIEF:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag includes means for preventing strains from occurring or means for distributing strains to prevent tearing.

**904 FILLING TUBE:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag includes a conduit through which contents are inserted.

SEE OR SEARCH THIS CLASS, SUBCLASS:

39+, for "valve bags".

**905 DEAD FOLD (DUCTILE) CLOSURE ELEMENT:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag includes a closing means made of malleable material so that it will stay in a given position.

**906 DISPENSING FEATURE:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag includes specified means for facilitating the removal of contents.

**907 PECULIAR, PARTICULAR SHAPE:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag has an unusual, specified shape.

**908 MATERIAL HAVING SPECIFIED GRAIN DIRECTION OR MOLECULAR ORIENTATION:**

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein the bag is made from a material which has either fibers or molecules aligned in a specified direction.

**FOREIGN ART COLLECTIONS**

Any foreign patents or nonpatent literature from subclasses that have been reclassified have been transferred directly to the FOR Collection listed below. These Collections contain ONLY foreign patents or nonpatent literature. The parenthetical references in the Collection titles refer to the abolished subclasses from which these Collections were derived.

**FOR 100 Multiple independent closures for single access opening:**

Subject matter wherein a single access opening includes more than one closure element, each of which is capable of closing the access opening by itself.

END